

ENHANCEMENT OF PEPTIDE CELLULAR UPTAKE**Abstract of the Disclosure**

Peptide conjugates of the formula are provided

(R-X)_n-peptide (I)

5 wherein:

n is from 1 to 10;

X is

(a) C=O, when the R-X group is attached to:

(i) the N-terminus of the peptide, or

10 (ii) a side chain of the peptide where the functional group of the side chain to which the R-X group is attached is NH₂ or OH; or

(b) O or NH, when the R-X group is attached to

(i) the C-terminus of the peptide, or

15 (ii) a side chain of the peptide where the functional group of the side chain to which the R-X group is attached is COOH or CONH₂; and

R is selected from the group consisting of C₂₋₁₈ alkyl; C₂₋₁₈ alkoxy; C₂₋₁₄ alkylenyl containing one or two double bonds; cyclobutyl; 20 cyclopentyl; cyclohexyl optionally monosubstituted with a C₁₋₅ straight or branched chain alkyl group; phenyl optionally monosubstituted with a C₁₋₅ straight or branched chain alkyl group; and benzyl.